

IN THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 (original): Footwear and, in particular, sports footwear such as, e.g., a ski boot, cross-country ski boot, hiking shoe or the like, which is assembled of several components and includes an upper, a tip or front cap and a heel or rear cap as well as a sole part including a wedge (2) having a preformed foot bed, wherein said several components are interconnected, preferably glued, characterized in that the tip or front cap and the heel or rear cap (4 and 6, respectively) are each designed as a preformed three-dimensional part.

Claim 2 (original): Footwear according to claim 1, characterized in that the respective edges of the tip and/or heel caps (4 and 6, respectively) are each offset in a stepwise manner with the offset parts overlapping each other and being connected with each other.

Claim 3 (currently amended): Footwear according to claim 1 ~~at least one of the preceding claims~~, characterized in that the front cap (4) is connected with the upper (5), on the one hand, and with the insole (3), on the other hand, each by a stepped gluing connection (7' and 3', respectively).

Claim 4 (currently amended): Footwear according to claim 1 ~~at least one of the preceding claims~~, characterized in that an insole (3) is sewn in in the region of the forefoot.

Claim 5 (original): Footwear according to claim 4, characterized in that the insole (3) is connected with the front cap (4) by a Strobel seam (9) or by gluing or the like.

Claim 6 (currently amended): Footwear according to claim 1 ~~at least one of the preceding claims~~, characterized in that the wedge (2) is equipped with a heel bedding and a longitudinal arch.

Claim 7 (original): Footwear according to claim 1, characterized in that the wedge (2) is equipped with a heel-forming elevation.

Claim 8 (currently amended): Footwear according to claim 1 ~~at least one of the preceding claims~~, characterized in that the wedge (2) is provided with a lateral shoulder (11) for positioning the upper (5) (Fig. 3).

Claim 9 (currently amended): Footwear according to claim 1 ~~at least one of the preceding claims~~, characterized in that it comprises an outsole (10), which is optionally provided with a grating (11) drawn upwards on the lateral sides and preferably embracing the heel portion (6) of the upper (5), and which is connected with the external upper (19) along an internal site of overlap, by a seam (12) or by gluing.

Claim 10 (currently amended): Footwear according to claim 1 ~~at least one of the preceding claims~~, characterized in that all parts attached to the wedge (2), such as the insole (3) and the rear cap (4), are connected on the side of the last.

Claim 11 (currently amended): Footwear according to claim 1 ~~at least one of the preceding claims~~, characterized in that the wedge (2) and the insole (3) are horizontally separated.